

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 401544/MATHISEN

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

RATLEDGE et al.

National Phase of PCT/GB00/02695

Filed: January 14, 2002

Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

For: CULTURE OF CRYPTHECODINIUM
COHNII FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF A
POLYUNSATURATED FATTY ACID

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

IN THE TITLE:

Replace the title with: CULTURE OF MICROORGANISMS FOR THE SYNTHESIS
OF A POLYUNSATURATED FATTY ACID

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-33 without prejudice. Add the following claims:

A1 34. (New) A method of culturing a microorganism for the synthesis of docosaheptaenoic acid by the microorganism, comprising culturing a microorganism selected from the group consisting of *Crypthecodinium cohnii* and genetically modified variants thereof with a compound selected from the group consisting of carboxylic acids and carboxylate ions, the microorganism using the compound as a carbon source and synthesizing docosaheptaenoic acid.

35. (New) The method according to claim 34, wherein said compound is acetic acid or acetate.

36. (New) The method according to claim 34, wherein the compound is the main carbon